Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): A network node having optical add modules and drop modules for a bidirectional ring network that has a working connection and a protection connection to other network nodes, comprising:

a first drop module and a first add module positioned on a protection module for bidirectional protection connection arranged on a first board; and

a second drop module and a second add module positioned on a working module arranged on a second board for bidirectional working connection, wherein the second drop module and the first add module are positioned in series with respect to a second fiber ring, and wherein the first drop module and the second add module are positioned in series with respect to a first fiber ring ~~and wherein the add and drop functions are arranged on two separate boards~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The network node as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the first drop module and the first add ~~modules~~ module of the protection module and the second drop module and the second add ~~modules~~ module of the working module each have a line input and a line output such that the first drop ~~and add modules~~ module and the first add module and the second drop module and the second add ~~modules~~ module are each separately insertable in the first or second fiber ~~rings~~ ring.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A network node having optical add modules and drop modules for a unidirectional ring network which has a working connection and a protection connection to other network nodes, comprising:

a first drop module and a first add module positioned on a protection module arranged on a first board for protection connection; and

a second drop module and a second add module positioned on a working module arranged on a second board for working connection, wherein the first drop module and the first add module are inserted in series in a second fiber ring, the second drop module and the second add module are inserted in series in a first fiber ring ~~and wherein the add and drop functions are arranged on two separate boards.~~

Claim 7 (currently amended): The network node as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the first drop module and ~~add modules~~ the first add module of the protection module and the second drop module and the second add ~~modules~~ module of the working module each have a line input and a line output such that the first drop ~~and add modules~~ module and the first add module and the second drop ~~and add modules are~~ module and the second add module are each separately insertable in ~~series into~~ the first ~~fiber ring~~ or ~~the~~ second fiber ring.